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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

IN REPLY REFER TO:

November 15, 1994

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Herb Bateman
U.S. House of Representatives
2350 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bateman:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of W. B. Dorsey, Sheriff, City of Williamsburg, Virginia, regarding the Commission's Billed Party Preference (BPP) proceeding. On May 19, 1994, the Commission adopted a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this proceeding. I have enclosed a copy of the Further Notice and press release accompanying it for your information.

The Further Notice sets forth a detailed cost/benefit analysis of BPP. This analysis indicates, based on the available data, that the benefits of BPP to consumers would exceed its costs. The Further Notice sought comment on this analysis and asked interested parties to supplement the record concerning the costs and benefits of BPP. The Further Notice also invited parties to recommend alternatives to BPP that could produce many of the same benefits at a lower cost. Reply comments were due September 14, 1994. Presently, the Commission is evaluating the comments submitted and considering the implementation of BPP along with other options.

The Further Notice also explicitly sought comment on whether correctional facility telephones should be exempt if BPP is adopted. Specifically, the Further Notice sought additional information on the effectiveness and costs of controlling fraud originating on inmate lines with or without BPP. The Further Notice also sought comment on a proposal to exempt prison telephones from BPP if the operator service provider adheres to rate ceilings for inmate calling services.

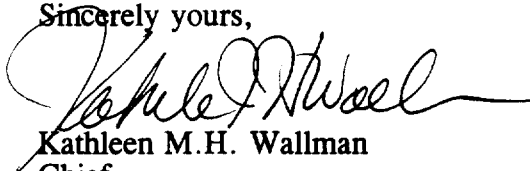
BPP would not preclude prison officials from blocking or limiting inmate calls to specific telephone numbers in order to prevent threatening and harassing calls. Moreover, BPP would not affect the ability of prison officials to limit inmates to collect calling or to program telephone equipment at the prison site to block certain numbers.

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The Honorable Herb Bateman
Page 2

Thank you for your interest in this proceeding. I can assure you that the Commission will carefully examine all of the comments submitted in response to the Further Notice, including additional empirical data regarding the costs and benefits of implementing BPP and the impact of BPP on telephone service from correctional facilities.

Sincerely yours,



Kathleen M.H. Wallman
Chief
Common Carrier Bureau

Enclosures

HERBERT H. BATEMAN
1ST DISTRICT VIRGINIA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4601

September 16, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hunt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commis.
1919 M Street, Room 802
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hunt:

Enclosed is a letter from a sheriff in Williamsburg who raises several concerns regarding the impact of Billed Party Preference (BPP) on correctional institutions.

While I recognize that implementation of BPP may ultimately result in significant benefits to consumers, I believe that the concerns of correctional facilities are legitimate. The FCC should strive to maintain the ability of correctional institutions to block harassing calls by inmates in any BPP implementation proposal. I understand that it might even be possible to implement BPP for all consumers except for correctional facilities.

I realize that the FCC has extended the public comment period on BPP. I would appreciate notification when the FCC issues a proposed rule on BPP.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Herbert H. Bateman
Member of Congress

HHB/pdm

**WILLIAM B. DORSEY, SHERIFF**

City of Williamsburg, Virginia

P.O. Drawer GC
Williamsburg, VA 23187
804-229-2832
FAX 804-229-3703

AUG 3 1994

July 28, 1994

Charlotte Smith
FCC 418-1200

Mr. Herb Bateman
Congressman
2350 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Bateman:

In regards to the Billed Party Preference for long distance telephone calls, currently before the Federal Communications Commission, I would like to state my reasons for opposing this measure:

Blocking control of the inmate phone system will be jeopardized.

Due to the loss of blocking capability, the inmates will manipulate the phone system and harass and abuse the public.

A revenue source will be lost - one that costs the taxpayers nothing, and the inmate's family phone costs will probably increase.

We vehemently oppose the BPP and implore the FCC to do the same.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

W B Dorsey

W. B. Dorsey
Sheriff

09/20/94 10:45

202 225 4382

CONG. BATEMAN

--- OLA FCC

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09/19/94 18:23

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CONG. BATEMAN

001

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Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

FAX COVER SHEET

from the office of:

CONGRESSMAN HERBERT H. BATEMAN
FIRST DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

TO:

JAY MEOLBY

FAX NUMBER:

418-206

FROM:

PAUL M'CLUNG

Office Telephone Number: (202) 225-4261

Office Fax Number: (202) 225-4382

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